

2022 NATIONAL VETERANS SUMMER SPORTS CLINIC



August 7 - 12, 2022

Veteran Participant Information

The VA San Diego Healthcare System and the VA National Veterans Sports Programs and Special Events office invites you to participate in the 2022 National Veterans Summer Sports Clinic (NVSSC) in San Diego, CA. This event will promote the value of rehabilitation utilizing a variety of summer leisure activities and adaptive sports. The mission of this innovative program is to provide a training ground for both veterans and health care providers in exciting outdoor summer sports. Our overall objective is to instill the value of these types of leisure pursuits as a viable means to aid in community re-entry and adjustment. Developing these skills, Veterans and therapists will be able to return home and implement a treatment plan emphasizing similar experiences on a regular basis. As part of VA's continued commitment to Veterans we are offering this program as a method to educate and build a strong foundation which will further each Veterans' dedication to their overall rehabilitation, health, and pursuit of a rewarding lifestyle.

What:

A VA rehabilitative clinic offering adaptive sailing, kayaking, cycling, surfing, and adaptive fitness. Qualified VA staff and adaptive instructors will provide event instruction. Additionally, there will be educational sessions that will reinforce your commitment to a healthier lifestyle.

When:

August 7 - 12, 2022. Registration will take place Sunday, August 7 at the Wyndham Bayside Hotel.

Who:

Participation is open to Veterans whose current rehabilitation goals would benefit from the value of adaptive summer sports and is open to Veterans eligible for care and actively engaged in VA healthcare including physical rehabilitation, mental health, blind rehabilitation, spinal cord injury, etc. **Qualifying disabilities include spinal cord injuries, amputations, visual impairments, neurological conditions, PTSD, burns, and TBI/Poly Trauma.** All disabilities are subject to review by the NVSSC Medical Director and NVSSC Director. Their decisions are final.

Attendance Eligibility: Due to the large Veteran population we wish to serve, Veterans will be eligible to attend up to two years. Priority registration will be given to first year applicants and Veterans that have never attended another National Veterans Sports Programs and Special Events clinic. Special considerations will be taken on a case-by-case basis dependent on a Veterans circumstance. This will enable past attendees to continue to develop positive rehabilitation skills and coping mechanisms as well as serve as role models and mentors to the Veterans attending for the first time.

Special note for all participants:

All participants are expected to possess good mobility and independent living skills. Weight limit for anyone who is dependent is 250 pounds; weight limit for those who can participate independently is 300 pounds. Any Veteran that requires partial or full assistance with their ADLs must bring their own caregiver. Each Veteran participant must attend the entire week and participate in all scheduled events.

How to Apply:

Eligible Veterans can find registration information and instructions on how to apply on the national website at www.summersportsclinic.va.gov. A healthcare provider must complete and sign the General Medical/Physical Exam form. ***In addition to the form there is additional medical information that is required (please see checklist).*** The only way to submit required medical exam form and additional documents is via NVSSC Medical Exam upload link which can be found at www.summersportsclinic.va.gov. Once required medical forms and documents are received and complete, you will be emailed a link to complete your registration for the 2022 National Veterans Summer Sports Clinic. You will be notified if you have been selected to attend once registration is closed and the NVSSC Medical Staff have reviewed all eligible applicants. **There will not be any exceptions to this policy.**

Registration deadline is April 1, 2022. Please do not email, fax, or mail any forms to the NVSSC office as they will not be processed.

Supportive Health Care Needs:

Medical care supervision will be provided throughout the event. Caregivers must accompany all Veteran participants throughout the program and assist where necessary. If you require DME equipment, please plan to bring your own. This includes assistive devices, specialty devices, and any other specialty equipment you require. Visually impaired Veterans are encouraged to bring any head mounted devices or monoculars to view board during education sessions.

All personal equipment or supplies such as catheters, leg bags, irrigating solutions, etc., must be brought by the Veteran.

Service Animals:

Veterans with service animals are responsible for the care and behavior of their dog. It is the owner's responsibility to bring all items (food, dishes, medication, leash, etc.). There are certain events that service animals will not be allowed for their safety, such as on the sail boats and kayaks - please plan accordingly. **Non-service animals are not allowed.**

Cost:

Veteran participants are expected to pay for lodging and transportation to and from San Diego including any incidentals. Meals and bus transportation during the clinic week will be provided.

To avoid confusion please do not make any travel plans until you have been accepted and received an acceptance packet with event details regarding your lodging, transportation, and meals.

Please Remember:

- Registration information and instructions on how to apply can be found at www.summersportsclinic.va.gov
- Registration deadline is **April 1, 2022.**
- Double check you have included all medical information registration requires.
- You will be notified if you have been selected to attend once registration is closed and the NVSSC Medical Staff have reviewed all eligible applicants.

****Please Note****: After you have been accepted to attend the 2022 National Veterans Summer Sports Clinic, you will receive information regarding lodging, event schedule, and any additional event specifics.

Thank you for your interest in the National Veterans Summer Sports Clinic.

VA remains committed to honoring our nation's Veterans by ensuring a safe environment to deliver exceptional health care. As such, VA's six national rehabilitation sports and arts programs will follow a COVID-19 plan which will be integrated into the operations of the in-person events for 2022.